

Hongkong Daily Press

When You are Reading
AND THE WORDS BECOME
BLURRED AND FADY
THEN YOU NEED TO CONSULT
N. LAZARUS
OPHTHALMIC OPTICIAN
25, Queen's Road Central, HONGKONG.

No. 19,838. 號三第百三千九萬一第 日一初月四年申庚 HONGKONG, TUESDAY, MAY 18TH, 1920. 二拜禮 號八拾月五年九國民華中 PIONEER, \$3 PER MONTH.

NOTIFICATIONS

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY
PORTLAND CEMENT.
In Casks 57 1/2 lbs net
In Bags 50 lbs net.
SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,
General Managers.

NOTICE.

Owing to the constant rise in first costs and the fall in exchange we are obliged to reduce our discounts to customers to Five per cent.

CALDBECK, MACGREGOR & CO.
LIMITED.

14, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

Telephone No. 75.

CARTRIDGES! CARTRIDGES!
CARTRIDGE

NEWLY ARRIVED
SPORTING CARTRIDGES,
12, 10 and 20 bore. Loaded with E. O. Powder, a powder which gives universal satisfaction.
THE HONGKONG SPORTING ARMS AND AMMUNITION STORE,
Nos. 5-8, Beaconsfield Arcade.

A LING & CO.
18, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, Hongkong.

FURNITURE AND PHOTO GOODS
STORE.
GLASS ETCHING, SIGN-BOARD AND MIRROR MAKING.
CANTON MARBLE IN VARIOUS SHAPES.
Photographic Goods of Every Description in Stock.
DEVELOPING PRINTING AND ENLARGING.
UNDER TAKEN.
TELEPHONE 1819.

PEAK TRAMWAY COMPANY LIMITED.

TIME TABLE

WEEK DAYS
7.00 a.m. to 8.00 a.m. Every 15 minutes
8.00 " " 9.30 " " 10 " "
9.30 " " 11.00 " " 15 " "
11.30 " " 12.30 p.m. " 15 " "
12.30 p.m. to 2.30 " " 10 " "
2.30 " " 5.00 " " 15 " "
5.00 " " 8.00 " " 10 " "

NIGHT CARS
8.50 p.m., 9.00 p.m., 9.20 p.m.
9.20 p.m. to 11.30 p.m. Every 30 minutes
11.45 p.m.

SATURDAY
Extra Car—12.00 Midnight.

SUNDAY
7.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. Every 15 minutes
10.30 " " 11.00 a.m. " 10 " "
11.30 " " 12.00 noon " 15 " "
12.00 noon to 1.00 p.m. " 15 " "
1.00 p.m. to 5.30 " " 15 " "
5.30 " " 8.00 " " 10 " "
8.00 " " 8.30 " " 15 " "
8.30 " " 8.00 " " 10 " "

NIGHT CARS
As on Week Days.

SPECIAL CARS by arrangement at the Company's Office, Alexandra Buildings, Des Voeux Road.
Season and punch tickets available for all cars, not already full, running at the time stated in the Company's time-tables, but not for special cars can be obtained on application at the Company's Office. No Season ticket will be issued until payment therefor has been made in Bank Notes or by Cheque or Compro Order representing Bank Notes.

KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY.

TIME TABLE.

On and after THURSDAY, APRIL 22nd, 1920, until further Notice.
(All previous Time Tables cancelled.)

DOWN TRAINS

Stations	No. 1 Local	No. 2 Through	No. 3 Express	No. 4 Local	No. 5 Through	No. 6 Express	No. 7 Local	No. 8 Through	No. 9 Express	No. 10 Local	No. 11 Through	No. 12 Express	No. 13 Local	No. 14 Through	No. 15 Express	No. 16 Local	No. 17 Through	No. 18 Express	No. 19 Local	No. 20 Through	No. 21 Express	No. 22 Local	No. 23 Through	No. 24 Express	No. 25 Local	No. 26 Through	No. 27 Express	No. 28 Local	No. 29 Through	No. 30 Express
CANTON (at Sha Tau)	dep.	7.30	8.00	8.30	9.00	9.30	10.00	10.30	11.00	11.30	12.00	12.30	1.00	1.30	2.00	2.30	3.00	3.30	4.00	4.30	5.00	5.30	6.00	6.30	7.00	7.30	8.00	8.30	9.00	9.30
SHAM CHUN	arr.	7.45	8.15	8.45	9.15	9.45	10.15	10.45	11.15	11.45	12.15	12.45	1.15	1.45	2.15	2.45	3.15	3.45	4.15	4.45	5.15	5.45	6.15	6.45	7.15	7.45	8.15	8.45	9.15	9.45
SHAU HUI	dep.	7.50	8.20	8.50	9.20	9.50	10.20	10.50	11.20	11.50	12.20	12.50	1.20	1.50	2.20	2.50	3.20	3.50	4.20	4.50	5.20	5.50	6.20	6.50	7.20	7.50	8.20	8.50	9.20	9.50
TAIPO	arr.	8.00	8.30	9.00	9.30	10.00	10.30	11.00	11.30	12.00	12.30	1.00	1.30	2.00	2.30	3.00	3.30	4.00	4.30	5.00	5.30	6.00	6.30	7.00	7.30	8.00	8.30	9.00	9.30	10.00
TAIPO MARKET	dep.	8.05	8.35	9.05	9.35	10.05	10.35	11.05	11.35	12.05	12.35	1.05	1.35	2.05	2.35	3.05	3.35	4.05	4.35	5.05	5.35	6.05	6.35	7.05	7.35	8.05	8.35	9.05	9.35	10.05
TAIPO	arr.	8.15	8.45	9.15	9.45	10.15	10.45	11.15	11.45	12.15	12.45	1.15	1.45	2.15	2.45	3.15	3.45	4.15	4.45	5.15	5.45	6.15	6.45	7.15	7.45	8.15	8.45	9.15	9.45	10.15
SHAM CHUN	dep.	8.20	8.50	9.20	9.50	10.20	10.50	11.20	11.50	12.20	12.50	1.20	1.50	2.20	2.50	3.20	3.50	4.20	4.50	5.20	5.50	6.20	6.50	7.20	7.50	8.20	8.50	9.20	9.50	10.20
SHAU HUI	arr.	8.30	9.00	9.30	10.00	10.30	11.00	11.30	12.00	12.30	1.00	1.30	2.00	2.30	3.00	3.30	4.00	4.30	5.00	5.30	6.00	6.30	7.00	7.30	8.00	8.30	9.00	9.30	10.00	10.30
KOWLOON	arr.	8.45	9.15	9.45	10.15	10.45	11.15	11.45	12.15	12.45	1.15	1.45	2.15	2.45	3.15	3.45	4.15	4.45	5.15	5.45	6.15	6.45	7.15	7.45	8.15	8.45	9.15	9.45	10.15	10.45

UP TRAINS

Stations	No. 1 Local	No. 2 Through	No. 3 Express	No. 4 Local	No. 5 Through	No. 6 Express	No. 7 Local	No. 8 Through	No. 9 Express	No. 10 Local	No. 11 Through	No. 12 Express	No. 13 Local	No. 14 Through	No. 15 Express	No. 16 Local	No. 17 Through	No. 18 Express	No. 19 Local	No. 20 Through	No. 21 Express	No. 22 Local	No. 23 Through	No. 24 Express	No. 25 Local	No. 26 Through	No. 27 Express	No. 28 Local	No. 29 Through	No. 30 Express
LAST FERRY	dep.	6.55	7.25	7.55	8.25	8.55	9.25	9.55	10.25	10.55	11.25	11.55	12.25	12.55	1.25	1.55	2.25	2.55	3.25	3.55	4.25	4.55	5.25	5.55	6.25	6.55	7.25	7.55	8.25	8.55
KOWLOON	arr.	7.05	7.35	8.05	8.35	9.05	9.35	10.05	10.35	11.05	11.35	12.05	12.35	1.05	1.35	2.05	2.35	3.05	3.35	4.05	4.35	5.05	5.35	6.05	6.35	7.05	7.35	8.05	8.35	9.05
SHAM CHUN	dep.	7.10	7.40	8.10	8.40	9.10	9.40	10.10	10.40	11.10	11.40	12.10	12.40	1.10	1.40	2.10	2.40	3.10	3.40	4.10	4.40	5.10	5.40	6.10	6.40	7.10	7.40	8.10	8.40	9.10
SHAU HUI	arr.	7.20	7.50	8.20	8.50	9.20	9.50	10.20	10.50	11.20	11.50	12.20	12.50	1.20	1.50	2.20	2.50	3.20	3.50	4.20	4.50	5.20	5.50	6.20	6.50	7.20	7.50	8.20	8.50	9.20
TAIPO	dep.	7.25	7.55	8.25	8.55	9.25	9.55	10.25	10.55	11.25	11.55	12.25	12.55	1.25	1.55	2.25	2.55	3.25	3.55	4.25	4.55	5.25	5.55	6.25	6.55	7.25	7.55	8.25	8.55	9.25
TAIPO MARKET	arr.	7.35	8.05	8.35	9.05	9.35	10.05	10.35	11.05	11.35	12.05	12.35	1.05	1.35	2.05	2.35	3.05	3.35	4.05	4.35	5.05	5.35	6.05	6.35	7.05	7.35	8.05	8.35	9.05	9.35
SHAM CHUN	dep.	7.40	8.10	8.40	9.10	9.40	10.10	10.40	11.10	11.40	12.10	12.40	1.10	1.40	2.10	2.40	3.10	3.40	4.10	4.40	5.10	5.40	6.10	6.40	7.10	7.40	8.10	8.40	9.10	9.40
SHAU HUI	arr.	7.50	8.20	8.50	9.20	9.50	10.20	10.50	11.20	11.50	12.20	12.50	1.20	1.50	2.20	2.50	3.20	3.50	4.20	4.50	5.20	5.50	6.20	6.50	7.20	7.50	8.20	8.50	9.20	9.50
KOWLOON	arr.	8.05	8.35	9.05	9.35	10.05	10.35	11.05	11.35	12.05	12.35	1.05	1.35	2.05	2.35	3.05	3.35	4.05	4.35	5.05	5.35	6.05	6.35	7.05	7.35	8.05	8.35	9.05	9.35	10.05

* Will stop at Taiipo and Sheungshui for First-Class Passengers on Notice being given to the guard.

NOTICE TO PASSENGERS.

The Railway Administration do not guarantee that the ferries mentioned in this table will connect with the trains as shown.

SHA TAU KOK BRANCH.

	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.	p.m.		a.m.	a.m.	p.m.	p.m.
Fauling dep.	8.50	12.00	2.20	6.00	Shataukok dep.	7.05	10.20	1.05	5.00
Shataukok arr.	9.45	12.55	8.15	6.55	Fauling arr.	8.00	11.15	2.00	5.55

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H. P. WINSLOW, Manager

H. P. WINSLOW, Manager.



MITSUBISHI ZOSEN KAISHA, LTD.

(EX MITSUBISHI DOCKYARD & ENGINE WORKS).

At A.B.C. WESTERN UNION, ENGINEERING AND BENTLEY CODES USED.

Builders and Repairers of Ships, Engines and Boilers, and Electrical Engineers.
Manufacturers of Centrifugal Condensers, Special Mangroves, Bronze Castings, Parsons' Steam Turbines and Turbo-Alternators, &c. &c.

NAGASAKI WORKS.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS: "DOCK," NAGASAKI.

GRAVING DOCKS AND PATENT SLIP.

Length on Keel Blocks	Dock No. 1	Dock No. 2	Dock No. 3
510 feet	250 feet	714 feet	714 feet
Width of Entrance on bottom	77 "	53 "	53 "
Water on Blocks at Spring Tide	28 "	24 "	24 "

PATENT SLIP—Capable of lifting vessels up to 1,000 tons gross.
Two Floating Cranes of 60 and 40 tons each, besides 150 tons Giant Crane.

KOBE WORKS.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS: "DOCK," KOBE.

FLOATING DOCKS.

Lifting Power	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3
7,700 tons	12,000 tons	16,000 tons	16,000 tons
Max. Length of Ship taken	400 feet	350 feet	470 feet
Max. Breadth of Ship taken	68 "	58 "	88 "
Max. Draft of Ship taken	33 "	32 "	30 "

Floating Crane of 40 tons weight, besides 100 Tripod Cranes.

HIKOSHIMA WORKS (Near Shimomoseki).

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS: "DOCK," SHIMOMOSEKI.

GRAVING DOCK.

Length on Keel	Breadth at Entrance on bottom	Depth of Water or Blocks at Spring Tide
383 feet 6 inch	58 " 0 "	25 " 0 "

Floating Crane capable of lifting 30 tons weight.
THE NAGASAKI, KOBE AND HIKOSHIMA DOCKYARDS are closely connected with each other, enabling them to co-operate in the prompt execution of work and to suit the convenience of customers.
Any Order will be promptly attended to and Estimate sent on application.

KAIPING COAL

FOR ALL INDUSTRIAL AND HOUSEHOLD PURPOSES.

FOUNDRY AND SMELTING COKE

FIREBRICK AND FIRECLAY

FOR ALL INFORMATION APPLY TO

DODWELL & CO., LTD., QUEEN'S BUILDINGS, HONGKONG, OR

KAILAN MINING ADMINISTRATION

TIENSIN, NORTH CHINA.

HONGKONG, CANTON & MACAO STEAMERS.

JOINT SERVICE OF THE HONGKONG, CANTON AND MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD., AND THE CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

HONGKONG-CANTON LINE.

Sailings:—To Canton daily at 8 a.m. (Sundays excepted) and 10 p.m.
From Canton daily at 8 a.m. (Sundays excepted) and 5 p.m.

SERVICE OF THE HONGKONG, CANTON & MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD.

HONGKONG-MACAO LINE.

To Macao—Daily at 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. (Sundays at 9 a.m.).
From Macao—Daily at 8.30 a.m. and 2 p.m. (Sundays at 6 p.m.).

Police Permits to leave the Colony are not required.
Further information may be obtained at the Company's Office, Hotel Mansions, or from Messrs. THOS. COOK AND SON, Booking Agents, Hongkong.

TO LET.

A SHOP in Nathan Road, Kowloon.

Apply to—
HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE CO., LTD.
Alexandra Buildings.

TO LET FURNISHED.

"BROCKHURST" No. 122, THE PRAX, for 3 months from 1st June next.
Apply to—
JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., Ltd.

TO LET FURNISHED.

"A VA HOUSE", May Road.
Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY CO., LTD.

SEAMEN'S INSTITUTE

21, PRAYA EAST, HONGKONG.

FOR the use of all Men of the Mercantile Marine and H. M. Navy.
Reading and Writing Rooms. Billiard Room. Officers' Room. C.P.O.'s Room. Restaurant, Concert Hall, Church. Private Cabins and beds in Dormitories. Motor Launch "Dayspring."

JUST ARRIVED

A. CONSIGNMENT OF
MESSRS. SHANKS & CO., LTD.

SHIPS CLOSET

BALTIC

PACIFIC

MEDITERRANEAN

ABOVE AND BELOW WATER

LINE.

C. E. WARREN & Co., Ltd.

30 & 32, Des Voeux Road, Central.

Established 1900.

DAIRY FARM NEWS

Received new shipments

of

LAMB, MUTTON, BEEF, RABBITS,

HARES

etc. etc.

from Australia

KIPPERS, FINNAN HADDOCKS,

TILLET HADDOCKS

direct from the Scottish Fisheries.

PICNIC CHEESE.

Prepared by us and put in neat glass jars at 30 cents per jar.

THE DAIRY FARM & ICE COLD STORAGE CO., LTD.

NOTICES TO CONSIGNEES

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamer

FIRST SALE IN 40 YEARS!

AN OPPORTUNITY NOT TO BE MISSED.

GENUINE REDUCTIONS IN
PIANOS, MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS
AND MUSIC
AT A LITTLE OVER COST.

ROBINSON'S.

Sleep in Comfort!



SHORT SLEEVES: KNEE LENGTH
SLEEPING SUITS.

You'll like the feel of these soft absorbent
sleeping suits, and the comfort ensured by
the full easy-fitting cut of the garments.

THREE QUALITIES. \$3.75, \$4.75 and \$5.50 per suit.

MACKINTOSH

& CO., LTD.
Men's Wear Specialists,
16, DES VŒUX ROAD. Telephone 29.

It was indeed a happy hap
when we hap to hit on the

"Happy Hit"

for this cigarette is recognised as the
"IT" of discriminating smokers, and it
certainly hit the mark wherever

BURLEY'S HAPPY HIT

is smoked to-day.

Ask for a tin and try it.

IT'S TOASTED

An entirely new principle in Cigarette Manufacture.

SOLE AGENTS:

THE HONGKONG CIGAR STORE CO., LTD.

Tel. 151.

Hotel Mansions.

HEALTH V. SICKNESS.

BY taking our "BOOSTER BRAND" MACARONI PASTE STARS, EGG-
NOODLES, VERMICELLI or other kinds of Soup-stuffs, REGULARLY you escape
SICKNESS, as all our Products, being manufactured from Flour of the Best Quality
and under the most Sanitary Method, can be EASILY DIGESTED and give you
GOOD HEALTH and STRENGTH.
Large quantities have been exported to various parts in the World.
Your esteemed Orders will receive our prompt and careful attention.
Terms moderate, especially for Agencies.



THE HING WAH PASTE MFG. CO., LTD.

HEAD OFFICE: Hongkong, Nos. 47 & 48, Cross Street Central, Tel. No. 1220.
BRANCH OFFICE: Shanghai, Nos. 480 and 481, Nanjing Road.
FACTORIES: Hongkong, Wai Hing Street, Causeway Bay; and Shanghai, No. 71,
North Sichow Road.

CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA AND CHINA. CONTINUED PROGRESS OF BUSINESS.

The sixty-sixth ordinary general meeting of the shareholders of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China was held on April 9th, at 38, Bishopsgate, London, E.C.

Sir Montagu Cornish Turner, (the Chairman), who presided, said:—Before moving the adoption of the report, I would draw your attention to the statement of accounts for the year 1919, which shows paid-up capital £2,000,000, in 100,000 shares of £20 each, and reserve fund £2,900,000, which, if the recommendations of the Court of Directors are approved of to-day, will amount to £3,000,000. This may be considered a highly satisfactory position, but, of course, it is always capable of betterment. You will also note that in nearly every item of the balance-sheet there is a marked increase. In current and other accounts we have an increase of nearly £12,000,000, fixed deposits are larger by £2,800,000, acceptances are almost double, loans payable are increased by over 200 per cent., and cash in hand and at bankers shows an improved position of about £4,600,000. The total entries on either side of the balance-sheet show an increase of £20,000,000 over the figures for 1918.

SIXTY YEARS PROGRESS.
It is interesting to find that in 1860 the capital stood at £44,000, and the reserve fund at £5,000. In 1880 the capital had been increased to £200,000, and the reserve fund to £100,000. In 1900 the capital still remained at £200,000, but the reserve fund had increased to £250,000. By 1910 the capital had been increased to £1,000,000, and the reserve fund to £1,800,000. In 1919 the capital stands at £2,000,000, and the reserve at practically £3,000,000. The progress has been steady and consistent, and I have no doubt that in the years to come the business of this bank will extend, and the reports will show equally gratifying results. There is, of course, the possibility of a check in the trade of the bank, and the immediate world-wide demands for raw material and manufactured goods have been met. The political situation all the world over is unsettled. We may have troublous times ahead, but, in spite of all, I look forward with confidence to the future of all classes, especially in this country, unite to deal fairly and squarely with each other. (Hear, hear.) Touching the results shown for the past year, I am confident that shareholders will fully appreciate the excellent services rendered by the staff both at home and abroad, whose loyal and devoted labours have contributed so appreciably to the success we have won. (Hear, hear.)

CURRENCY AND EXCHANGE.
For the managers, especially those at head office, it has been a period of unusual anxiety and harassment. The unprecedented fluctuations in the price of silver and gold have been very remarkable, and the volume of business which fell to the lot of this bank in connection with the financing of exports, for national purposes, has been far above the average, and the demands on the resources of the bank have been at every point far in excess of the ordinary. During 1919 the price of silver rose from 74½ p. oz. to 84½ p. oz., a rise of 13.5 per cent., and gold, when the restrictions on its movements were withdrawn in the fall of the year, commanded a premium of 43 per cent. Of course, in other parts of the world, not only in the East, the fluctuations in exchange have been extraordinary. The Hongkong dollar, the Chinese dollar, the Indian rupee have all been jumping about, so that you never know where to catch them. Look at the American exchange, which even to-day shows that the dollar is worth over 50, compared with its ordinary value of about 45. Look at France, where the franc is worth a little over 100, Germany with a mark worth 10, not quite that, and Italy with the lira at 210. Of course, Austria is simply unquotable; her current coin is worth less than 10. I mention these facts to show you the difficulties that exchange bankers have to contend with, and the absurdity of people thinking that exchange banking means simply counting money; it is very often the reverse. In addition to this we have other difficulties. There is the uncertainty as to the ultimate standard value of the rupee measured in gold following on the report of the Babington Smith Currency Commission. Further cause of trouble has been the very serious delay in the transmission and receipt of cable messages. In some instances ordinary telegrams between India and the Far East and this country have occupied 14 days in transmission, and the average has been about seven days. The loss to the mercantile community, including the banks, owing to these deplorable delays, can scarcely be estimated. I am glad to say that within the last few days there has been an improvement. The report and recommendations of the Currency Commission, to which I have already alluded, have, on the whole, met with general approval. Some of us may have had our views as to the desirability of fixing the standard value of the rupee at a figure somewhat lower than that recommended by the Commission, but the reasons given in the report in favour of the 2s. rupee are fairly convincing. The proposal for amalgamating the Presidency Banks in India under the title of the Imperial Bank of India is one that has attracted a considerable amount of attention. The Presidency Banks have always been the bankers of the Exchange Banks. We wish the Imperial Bank a successful career, fully confident that there is ample scope in India both for the semi-State Bank and for the British Exchange Bank. Mr. J. M. G. Proffit, elected as a member of the Board, has for many years been connected with one of the most important firms in Calcutta, and at the time he was President of the Bank of Bengal.

(Continued at foot of next column.)

COMPANY REPORT CANTON INSURANCE OFFICE, LIMITED.

The report for presentation to the shareholders at the thirty-ninth ordinary meeting states:—

The General Agents and Consulting Committee have pleasure in submitting a statement of the affairs of the office made up to December 31st, 1919, in Sterling and Hongkong currency.

Capital.—The call of \$50 per share directed by the Consulting Committee at a meeting held on May 21st, 1919, has been paid in full and the paid-up capital of the Company is thus increased to \$1,000,000.

Reserve Fund.—The special dividend, authorised by the Consulting Committee at their meeting above-mentioned, to be paid out of the Reserve Fund amounted, at exchange 3/6½, to \$28,541 13s. 4d. This fund is thus reduced to \$54,887 10s.

The proposed appropriation of \$54,887 10s. to the credit of this fund out of the profits of the year 1919 will bring the Reserve Fund up to \$295,000.

1918 Account.—After paying an interim dividend of \$18 per share on May 21st, 1919, the amount standing to the credit of this account is \$1,296,175.88.

This is resolved to deal with in the following manner:

To pay a final dividend of \$12 per share	\$120,000.00
To add to sterling reserve fund \$24,887 10s.	254,388.97
To add to reinsurance fund	100,000.00
To add to underwriting suspense account to close the year 1918	551,876.91
	\$1,296,175.88

1919 Account.—The amount standing at credit of this account is \$1,815,763.62. Out of this the General Agents and Consulting Committee have declared an interim dividend of \$18 per share amounting to \$180,000. The balance of \$1,635,763.62 will be carried forward.

Consulting Committee.—Mr. White resigned his seat on account of his departure from the Colony and Mr. G. W. Barton was invited to fill the vacancy.

The Hon. Sir Paul Chater, C.M.G., Sir Robert Ho Tung, Messrs. Barton, Compton, Gubbay, Mainland and Pearce retire but, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

Auditors.—The Accounts have been audited by Mr. H. Percy Smith, F.C.A., and the Hon. Mr. A. R. Lowe, F.C.A., who, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

I need not dwell at length on the recommendations of the directors contained in the report. There can be no doubt whatever that as long as circumstances permit, we should add to our reserves. The superannuation fund must also be maintained, and the extra amount earmarked for premises account is fully justified when we bear in mind the necessity for providing increased accommodation and the opening out of new branches, which entails in many cases the purchase of sites as well as the building of premises. In conclusion, I desire to express the thanks of the directors to the staff, both home and foreign, for the splendid manner in which they have worked during the past year. Our appreciation has been marked by the granting of bonuses and of an improved scale of pay to meet the greatly-increased cost of living. We know that the strain must have been heavy, but the extra time and increased work have been cheerfully given, and especially we thank the managers at head office for the unwearied attention they have given to the general management of the bank. With those remarks I beg to move:—That the report now presented, together with the balance-sheet and profit and loss account, be approved and adopted. (Applause.)

Sir Alfred Dent, K.C.M.G., seconded the resolution.

In reply to remarks by Mr. Frederick Tomkinson, who pointed out that the dividend of 20½ per cent. now being paid had been earned, not only on the capital of £2,000,000, but also on the reserves, the Chairman said he did not refer to the fact that the dividend had not been earned entirely on the capital, but he had also earned on the reserve, because he had also indicated that at the meeting of the bank last year. He admitted that in these days it was quite the fashion to capitalise reserves, but it was a practice which, while it had its merits, had considerable demerits. Before such a policy was adopted in the case of their own bank it would require very careful consideration at the hands of the Board.

Mr. Robert E. Hayes, having congratulated the directors and the officials of the bank on the results presented, the resolution was carried unanimously.

The Chairman next moved:—That a dividend at the rate of 34 per cent. per annum for the half-year ended December 31st, 1919, together with a bonus of 25s. per share, both free of income-tax, be now declared payable on and after April 16th.

Mr. Thomas Cornish seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted. Mr. J. M. G. Proffit, Sir Alfred Dent, K.C.M.G., and Mr. Thomas Cornish were re-elected directors, and the auditors moving a hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman, directors, the managers, and the staff of the bank, which was seconded by Mr. B. B. Glover, and unanimously approved.

The Chairman having briefly replied, the proceedings terminated.

THE BRITISH NAVAL ESTIMATES. HONGKONG AND WEI-HAI-WEI ITEMS.

The Naval Ordnance staff at Hongkong, consisting of eight members, will receive salaries and allowances to the amount of \$3,941 in the coming year; the naval police, \$3,300; cost of dredging Kowloon Coaling Camber, \$3,300; battery shed for submarines, Hongkong, \$11,700; storage for oil fuel, £50,000.

For Wei-hai-wei the estimates provide the sum of \$3,300 for senior naval officer's residence and subordinates' residence. Some smaller items for various works are also mentioned.

The numbers of dockyard officers, employees, etc., to be maintained at Hongkong will be 102, as against 99 last year; the total cost for salaries and allowances being put down at \$102,940, as against \$99,335 last year. At Wei-hai-wei a staff of twelve will be kept in the dockyard there at a cost of \$9,452.

Paymaster Lieutenant-Commander E. H. Stern, Royal Navy, has been appointed to the Tamar, Hongkong, as secretary to Commander W. Bowden Smith, Commander of the Tamar since July, 1903.

Commissioned Gunner A. E. Way, M.B.E., has been appointed to the Tamar for instruction duties. He saw much service in the war, was mentioned in despatches, and received the Order of the British Empire.

It is understood (says a writer in the Z. and C. Express) that the Garrison Artillery detachments in the Far East and the coaling stations abroad generally will be strengthened permanently, the present garrisons being hardly adequate for the proper discharge of duties devolving on them.

SIR FRANCIS PIGGOTT IN THE BANKRUPTCY COURT. PETITION BY MONEY-LENDERS.

A meeting of creditors was held recently at Bankruptcy Buildings (London) under a receiving-order made on the petition of a firm of money-lenders against Sir Francis Taylor Piggott, barrister-at-law, of Stone Buildings, Lincoln's Inn. Mr. E. Parke, Assistant Official Receiver, who presided, said that the debtor, who was formerly in the Colonial Service, had lodged a statement of affairs showing liabilities expected to rank £27,557, and assets valued at £294. The debtor stated that apart from these assets he was interested in certain business which he hoped would come to a head in a week or two, and out of which he expected to be able to pay his debts in full. The creditors passed resolutions for bankruptcy, and the appointment of Mr. David Hart, accountant, as trustee, but the Official Receiver explained that the debtor would receive notice of the application for an adjudication in bankruptcy, and could place his reasons for delay before the Registrar.

U.S. TRADE WITH SOUTH CHINA.

Mr. George E. Anderson, Consul-General of the United States in Hongkong, in a report issued January 28th last, states that the prospects of the American trade in south China during 1920 coincide in general with the prospects of such trade throughout the Far East and to some extent, the world over. During the war the United States built up a large trade in nearly all lines of exports to the East, and during the last year it has held most of this trade. Its pre-war trade, which consisted mostly of flour, kerosene, lumber, and a limited line of machinery, largely disappeared under war conditions. Kerosene has revived, lumber is regaining its position slowly, and flour will continue so long as prices remain what they now are in the United States on the one hand and as long as Australia (which is now furnishing the chief foreign supply of flour) has a surplus stock to export. The prospect really hinges upon the question of how much of the business the United States has secured during the war can be held under post-war conditions. In the solution world-wide conditions naturally enter to a controlling extent. It may be that special conditions will prove of assistance. At present the exchange value of silver and the shortage of supplies of silver affecting all trade in China; and the United States, as the possessor of the chief stock of both silver and gold in the world, is in a position to settle its trade balances to advantage. In the long run these settlements are arranged through indirect channels, and hence this ability to finance American trade in the Far East is less important than at first it might seem. This situation is also largely favourable to Chinese exports to the United States, rather than American exports to China. So far the United States has held its trade rather more fully than had been anticipated.

The real test of strength in the great staples is yet to come. In the iron and steel trade, for example, the test has not yet been reached, since normal conditions in Great Britain have not yet been restored; but Great Britain has already commenced to secure some of its old trade again in this line, and likewise in pig-iron. Belgium is regaining much of its old trade in window glass. These show the beginning of real competition. On the other hand, the United States has secured a considerable share of trade in many lines it never before enjoyed, and which, for the time being at least, it is holding effectively. These include special food products; machinery; electrical and similar machines; appliances and materials; musical instruments; ready-made clothing and haberdashery; leather goods; chemicals; hardware; paper and stationery. Goods have been introduced and are favourably received; their trade in the future depends upon comparative price and quality.

JAPANESE CURRENCY SUPPLANTS ROUBLES. ON ACCOUNT OF SEVERE SLUMP IN ROUBLES.

Japanese money has supplanted rouble notes as currency in Vladivostok, according to an official message received by the Tokyo Foreign Office. When Japanese money was circulated by the Russian army of occupation in 1918, the Russians strongly objected and refused to trade in Vladivostok for Japanese money. At present, however, dire necessity compels them to accept Japanese currency.

The official message to the Tokyo Foreign Office also states that the slump in rouble notes has become much worse. At the beginning of April, the ratio of the rouble note to the Japanese yen was as \$7,000 to 100. In the middle of April the ratio was 30,000 to 100, while by the end of April it had risen to 42,000 to 100.

Transactions on the basis of rouble notes have, accordingly, become very dangerous, says the official message. Leading department stores at Vladivostok closed their doors lately on the pretext of taking inventory of their cargo and when they reopened their stores they announced that they priced their goods according to the value of gold. This means that they adopted Japanese money instead of rouble notes as the basis of prices. In view of the danger of trading in rouble notes, more merchants at Vladivostok have followed this example and they now customers for payment in Japanese money. When customers pay in rouble notes, they charge on them the balance.—Japan Advertiser.

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HIGHWAYS OF JAPAN. VIEWS OF MR. SAMUEL HILL.

"Motor cars running through the streets of Tokyo on a rainy day may be likened to submarines navigating the Yellow Sea," said Mr. Samuel Hill to the members of the Road Improvement Society of Tokyo, at a reception given to him at the Jovian, Hototsubashi, Kanai. "In dry weather clouds of yellow dust are raised covering everything; when it rains, the entire city is a sea of dirty mud."

"I have been discussing the question of improving the roads of Tokyo—of all Japan—with Mr. Tokonami, the Home Minister; Baron Sibusawa and others, and have impressed on them the importance of clean and well-ordered roads exercise in the welfare and interest of a nation. Frankly speaking, the bulk of the Japanese are quite indifferent regarding the condition of the roads and take things in a sort of fatalistic, shikata-gu nai spirit. To this must be attributed largely the bad condition of the roads for if the people do not clamour for it, the authorities will not be over-anxious to improve the roads. The thorough improvement of the roads and thoroughfares will mean a huge outlay, but the gain in the end will be far more. None the less, until the people themselves ask for better roads and show that they are not content with walking alternately in pools of mud and alternately in blinding clouds of thin dust, until then, the roads will remain bad."

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TWENTY MILLION JEWS. WHAT PALESTINE CAN HOLD.

There is room for 20,000,000 inhabitants in Palestine, according to the Jordanian, the famous author, who is keenly interested in arousing the interest of Jews in this project throughout the world.

This is the hour before the dawn for the Jew, thanks to the English-speaking nations, declares Doctor Nordau. "For a thousand years the Jews have looked for the coming of the Messiah and I feel that His coming is about near. I hope it will not prove a false Messiah. The Jews are just beginning to realise what this Zionist movement really is. Zionism for the Jew is their real salvation. The Jew of the world have assimilated the habits and customs of all nations, but they realise that Palestine is their real home. Masses of Jews hail this movement and there should be any deception it would be tragic. Those not wanting to go to Palestine may easily remain where they are and God bless them."

"It is expected that a method will be devised of giving citizenship in the new state of Palestine to Jews who do not wish to go there right away."

100,000 FORTUNE TELLERS. TOO MUCH INFLUENCE.

There are about 3,000 street fortune tellers plying their trade in Tokyo, and about 100,000 in the whole of Japan. This business is open to anyone with practically no restrictions, and requires very little capital with which to start. Consequently many call themselves fortune tellers who have neither knowledge nor ability, while some are even illiterate or of questionable character, according to the Chuo.

In fact, the sole object of these fortune tellers is to work mischief, for the nature of the business draws customers who are in trouble and who, by following the advice of these fortune-tellers, fall into further misfortunes.

In view of these facts, the police are planning to take stricter measures with these purveyors of heaven's decrees. The Chuo suggests that licenses be granted only after a thorough examination.

JAPANESE OLYMPIC TEAM. SQUAD TRAINING FOR ANTWERP.

The Japanese Olympic team is undergoing a regular course of training on the athletic field of the Imperial University. The athletes are working hard and will leave Japan for Antwerp in prime condition.

Daikichi and Yashima, who are still absent from the team, will arrive in Tokyo and take up regular work with the other members of the team. Y. Sakamoto, one of the five members of the Marathon squad, will not be able to accompany the team to Antwerp.

CABLES.

LATEST CABLES.

(THROUGH ROUTE'S AGENTS.)

POLISH OFFENSIVE AGAINST RUSSIA.

PRIME MINISTER'S OFFER.

LONDON, May 14th.
It is authoritatively learnt that the Polish Prime Minister, M. Skulski, has intimated Poland's readiness to resume peace negotiations with Russia.

POLAND'S POLITICAL AIM.

COPENHAGEN, May 14th.
A message from Reval says that M. Vasilevski, the Polish representative in Estonia, said that the Polish offensive was part of the programme for an alliance of the Russian border States against a Germano-Russian Alliance. Poland would receive East Galicia for helping the Ukraine. M. Vasilevski's task is to induce Estonia to join the alliance, which already comprises Poland, Finland and Rumania.

ZEPPELIN'S OVER WARSAW.

LONDON, May 14th.
Seven Zeppelins flew over Warsaw on May 9th. It is believed that they were carrying German Staff Officers who are going to Russia to reorganise the Bolshevik army.

The Poles declare that this violates the Treaty of Versailles.

WHAT POLAND WANTS.

PARIS, May 14th.
Interviewed in Rome, M. Patek, the Polish Foreign Minister, declared that Poland had no imperialist aims and claimed that the disannexation of the territories Poland possessed in 1772, and the Polish capture of 180 locomotives and 2,000 guns proved that the Bolsheviks were preparing to invade Poland, but as soon as Poland's objects were attained she would be ready to negotiate with the Bolsheviks.

AMERICA AND PEACE.

MODIFICATION OF RESOLUTION.

NEW YORK, May 13th.
The provision in the Republican peace resolution requesting President Wilson to negotiate with Germany for a separate treaty, has been struck out on the motion of Senator Lodge.

The Senate will vote on May 15th on the resolution.

AMERICAN RAILWAYS.

DRIVERS AND FIREMEN PROPOSE TO STRIKE.

PITTSBURGH, May 13th.
Train drivers and firemen on the Pennsylvania, Baltimore, Ohio, Pittsburgh and Lake Erie railroads have voted for a strike, owing to the alleged failure of the Railroad Labour Board to take action in respect of their wage demands.

EFFECT OF RECENT STRIKE.

WASHINGTON, May 13th.
The appeals for relief received by the Inter-State Commerce Commission indicate that 225,000 rail trucks have been tied up or delayed owing to freight congestion at the principal railroad terminals as a result of the recent strike.

AMERICAN TRAIN ROBBERY.

ROBBER HOLDS UP POSTAL CLERKS.

CHICAGO, May 14th.
A daring robbery took place in a train bound for Chicago. A man entered the mail van and intimidated the postal clerks and carried off packets containing \$100,000 in cash. As the train reached Chicago, two policemen stopped the robber who fired a revolver at the head of one policeman and temporarily escaped, but was subsequently overtaken and shot dead.

UNREST IN IRELAND.

MINOR OUTRAGES REPORTED.

LONDON, May 14th.
Further minor outrages are reported from Ireland, including the burning down of the Caber court house. Reinforcements for the Irish Constabulary are arriving from England.

PRODUCED CANCER.

SCIENTIST'S EXPERIMENT.

LONDON, May 15th.
A scientist in Copenhagen has produced cancer in rats by feeding them on the eggs of the scabrous parasite.

THE MEXICAN REVOLUTION.

CARRANZA'S SUPPORTERS KILLED.

EL PASO, May 13th.
General Obregon states that high officials accompanying Carranza were killed in an engagement between Apizaco and Apam.

CARRANZA'S DETERMINED STAND.

NEW YORK, May 13th.
A message from Vera Cruz states that Carranza's army of 4,000 has been surrounded by rebels and is making a determined stand in a strong position near San Marcos.

CARRANZA BEATEN.

NEW YORK, May 14th.
A message from Vera Cruz states that Carranza's forces have been driven from their positions at San Marcos.

A message from Brownsville (Texas) says it is understood that in accordance with an agreement with Carranza and the rebels the last Federal stronghold on the United States border will be surrendered to-day.

CARRANZA ESCAPES.

VERA CRUZ, May 15th.
Carranza, with a picked force of a thousand, has escaped to the mountains, after destroying a train of war material. The remaining Federalists are still stubbornly fighting the revolutionists.

FOUNDING OF "SUKESKI."

NO LIVES LOST.

CALCUTTA, May 14th.
There were no casualties in connection with the founding of the *Sukeski*.

CONSTANTINOPLE OUTRAGE.

ATTEMPT ON LIFE OF GRAND VIZIER.

CONSTANTINOPLE, May 14th.
A policeman attempted to shoot the Grand Vizier, but only wounded an attendant. The would-be assassin was arrested.

THE PRINCE OF WALES.

AUSTRALIAN LABOUR COUNCIL DECISION.

SYDNEY, May 14th.
The Labour Council, after a heated debate, has decided not to participate in the welcome to the Prince of Wales.

EMPIRE MOTOR FUEL.

APPOINTMENT OF NEW COM. MITTEE.

LONDON, May 13th.
An Empire Motor Fuel Committee has been appointed with a view to developing the production of additional supplies in all parts of the Empire.

OBITUARY.

LONDON, May 15th.
The death is announced of Mr. Ronald Burrows, Principal, King's College, London.

COUNTY CRICKET.

H. WILSON SCORES CENTURY FOR SUSSEX.

LONDON, May 14th.
Marylebone beat Nottinghamshire by 5 wickets.
Sussex beat Warwick by 138 runs. In the Sussex second innings H. Wilson scored 187.

TAXATION OF WAR WEALTH.

COMMERCIAL MEN'S PROTEST.

LONDON, May 15th.
Representative banking, commercial and Stock Exchange bodies have made representations to the Select Committee strongly criticising the scheme for the levy on war fortunes and urging the danger of a financial panic if the levy is imposed.

EARLIER CABLES.

DECISION LEFT TO THE COMMONS.

LONDON, May 15th.
The Report of the Select Committee on taxing war wealth increases says that, after close examination of conflicting testimony, the Committee has concluded that the difficulties in administration of such a task are not insurmountable and an amended scheme of the Board of Inland Revenue is administratively practicable, because the examination of taxpayers' returns, valuation of property and the assessment and collection of the duty could be effectively carried out, while the cost of administration and collection would be small.

If the financial conditions of the country are such that it is urgently necessary to raise a sum of £200,000,000, objections against such a tax should not be allowed to stand in the way of its imposition. Moreover, although the suggested tax is strongly opposed by the financial and commercial world, there is a very large body of public opinion which regards it as just and necessary. However, the financial conditions governing the problem have been largely modified, since the Committee was appointed, by the Budget proposals and the offer of new 6 per cent. fifteen-years Treasury Bonds. Therefore the Committee is of opinion that the desirability or expediency of the tax must be left to the decision of the House of Commons.

FAR EASTERN CABLE NEWS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ITALIAN AVIATOR ARRIVES IN PEKING.

PEKING, May 15th.
Ferraris, who is participating in the Rome to Tokyo flight, arrived in Peking at noon from Tsingtao, and received an enthusiastic welcome. The Marquise Durazzo, wife of the Italian Charge d'Affaires, kissed the aviator and his companions greeted him with Viva's. The Chinese greeted him with Wansui, "thousand years."

General Ting Ching, head of the Chinese Aviation Department, presented a silver income-burner on a stand bearing the inscription "To the First Man to Fly across the Continent of Asia."

Wang Kai-wan, on behalf of the President, pinned on the Order of Wenhu (Fourth Class) on Ferraris's breast.

The aviator leaves for Tokyo in three days.

STUDENTS RETURN TO BOOKS.

PEKING, May 15th.
Students resumed classes to-day.

THE VACANT PREMIERSHIP.

PEKING, May 15th.
Chow Shu-mu has declined the Anfu offer of Premiership. It is believed that Admiral Sah will also decline it.

WAR INDEMNITY FOR CHINA.

NEGOTIATIONS WITH BERLIN GOVERNMENT.

According to a semi-official telegram received by one of the Government boards from Paris signed by Dr. Koo, says a Peking dispatch, negotiations with Germany concerning damages and losses suffered by Chinese merchants and others during the war are in progress satisfactorily and it is reported that the total amount to be paid by the German Republic to Chinese merchants and others for commercial, agreements, contracts and private debts is about \$22,000,000.

It is believed that part of this war indemnity will be paid to China out of the German money which has been left in Chinese hands.

With reference to the revival of Sino-German relations, the Government has wired to Dr. Yen, Chinese Minister in Copenhagen, instructing him to inform the Berlin Government that China inclines to consider the proposal of the revival of Sino-German commercial and industrial relations apart from politics, and there is a report among the Chinese that Mr. Cordes, formerly of the German Bank in Peking, will be one of the German delegates for the negotiation of a new Sino-German commercial treaty with the Chinese Government.

NEW JAPANESE COMPANY.

ENTERPRISE IN EASTERN INNER MONGOLIA.

(ASIATIC NEWS AGENCY.)

MURDER, May 15th.
There was an important function yesterday when General Chang Tsolin opened the Sino-Japanese industrial and cattle-raising development company. Its principal shareholders are General Chang and Baron Okura, head of the Okura Company, who made his entire fortune in China. The new company is called the "Hsin-yeh" corporation and is chiefly intended for the development of the vast tract of arable farming lands in eastern Inner Mongolia where Japan has a special sphere of influence. The capital is \$5,000,000. Nearly all the arable lands, both Government and private, have now been purchased by the company. One important stipulation in the prospectus, which has been sanctioned by the Chinese authorities, is that, in case of necessity, the company may extend its activities to Outer Mongolia and other parts of Inner Mongolia and Manchuria.

COMMERCIAL TREATY WITH GREECE.

ATTITUDE OF PEKING GOVERNMENT.

Dr. Koo has been instructed to inform the Greek Minister in Paris that the Chinese Government accepts the proposal for the negotiation of a Sino-Greek commercial treaty, provided that the Greek Government, in the same way as the Bolivian Government, agrees to enjoy an extraterritorial rights in China. It is reported, says an Asiatic News Agency message, that this condition has been accepted by the Athens Government.

SPEEDING UP THE MAIL.

The *Strait Times* notes that two new P. & O. boats are now on their way to Bombay, both in a class described as the fastest and best-appointed ships of the fleet on the Eastern route. The first bringing the mails of April 15th, reached Port Said on April 15th, in excellent time. The English mails are now being speeded up. The last mail reached India in 18 days and it is expected that the new boats will do the trip in much less time.

LINER RATES RAISED.

PLAN TO COUNTERBALANCE SLUMP.

Some of the great shipping companies are already taking steps to recoup themselves for the slump in freights, says the *Daily Express*.

The North Atlantic Shipping Conference, which consists of the Cunard, White Star, Anchor, Canadian Pacific, and other large companies working the North Atlantic trade, has decided on an all-round advance in passenger rates and in freight rates from Great Britain to the United States and Canada. This is the third increase since the outbreak of the war.

The passenger fares in a typical American liner, the *Rutland*, at various periods before, during, and since the war, are shown in the following table:

	1st. cl.	2nd. cl.	3rd. cl.
Pre-war	£20 0	£11 0	£7 0
1915	£23 0	£13 0	£8 0
1918	£23 0	£13 0	£8 0
1920	£23 0	£13 0	£8 0
New rates	£23 0	£13 0	£8 0

An addition of 33 per cent. as surcharge must be made to the 1920 figures, and 25 per cent. to the figures of the new rate.

The shipping companies contend that the surcharge is imposed to counteract the unfavorable rate of exchange between this country and the United States, and declare that as the exchange value of the English pound increases the surcharge will be correspondingly reduced.

The public want to know why the surcharge should be made at all.

The west-bound passenger pays for his passage in English money and travels in a ship that is rationed in this country. What possible justification is there for any surcharge?

The public also want to know why, if it is not necessary to make any surcharge on the freight for goods, it should be necessary to make it in the case of passenger rates.

The passenger not only pays more than double his pre-war fare, but he receives much less comfort. He often has to wait a long time for his passage, and he travels in a vessel that is packed from stem to stern to its utmost capacity.

The latest increase in freights is of a sweeping character, and is less than 50 per cent. with exceptions which are claimed to cover from 30 to 40 per cent. of the total.

These include fertilisers, oils, whiting, certain certain metals and chemicals, the increase is 25 per cent. This is the third increase that has taken place on pre-war freights. The dates and increases are as follows:

Year.	Per cent.
1918	25
1919	25
1920 (April)	50

It is claimed by the companies concerned that circumstances exist which they have no control have driven them to make these increases.

The present increase is a very belated one," said an official to a *Daily Express* representative. "We have always treated the question of advancing freights with the greatest hesitancy, because we have always taken the national view, and have recognised that the tendency of an increase must be to restrict trade. Our present action is necessitated by the general increased cost in handling goods, both here and on the other side, by the increased price of coal, and by the increase in the wages of the crews."

COAL has increased 300 per cent. in price, while wages have increased something like 140 per cent. since 1914. To this has to be added the fact that we cannot drive our ships so fast. We have made no increase in freights since March 1918, and since then the price of coal has gone up from £2 10s. to more than £7 per ton.

The *Daily Express* would like to know why the shipping companies have decided on this wholesale increase in freights at the very moment that a large reduction has been announced in the price of bunker coal.

South Wales coalowners, in consequence of urgent representations regarding the price of bunker coal for liners, have recently decided in the national interest to enter into an arrangement, lasting until the end of August, to supply bunker coal at 23 10s. free on board at 23 10s. 8d. Wales and Tyne ports, and at 23 10s. 8d. free on board at Scottish ports. This is less than half the price that has been paid of late for bunker coal. The action of the coalowners in "national interest" sweeps away one of the main reasons urged by the shipping companies as justification for the latest increase in freights.

The two leading companies concerned are the Cunard and the White Star. Evidence given by Sir Alfred Booth, chairman of the Cunard Company, at the recent Dockers' Inquiry showed that in 1914 that company paid 10 per cent. duty and 10 per cent. bonus, in 1915 10 per cent. and 10 per cent. bonus, in 1916 20 per cent., in 1917 20 per cent., and in 1918 10 per cent. of the double capital, with £500,000 placed to reserve.

The last report of the White Star Line showed that in 1918 the company made a profit of £1,341,542, after providing for excess profits duty. The report stated that the fleet had been maintained at a high standard of efficiency.

A STRANGE MEMORIAL.

A curious war memorial is to be found at Saffman Prior, a little village in Cambs. The inhabitants elected to place in the parish Church painted windows representing various war activities, with explanatory texts beneath. Thus, on one side of a window is to be seen a tank. "But the man that shall touch them must be armed with iron." On the other is a German submarine ensnared in the deep sea-net, with the words: "Though they be hid from my sight in the bottom of the sea, thence will I command the serpent, and he shall bite them." A third picture, of a Red Cross nurse tending soldiers in hospital, is interpreted: "And the Lord said: 'It is not good that man should be alone. I will make him an helpmeet for him.'"

CABINET CRISIS IN PEKING.

PREMIER PRESENTS HIS RESIGNATION.

PEKING, May 9th states:—

Owing to the Shantung issue and the existing financial stringency, during the ordinary Cabinet meeting yesterday, Premier Chin took his colleagues by surprise by stating that he could not carry on the Government any longer. On account of illness, Mr. Chen Lu, acting Foreign Minister, did not attend the Cabinet meeting, but the draft reply from China to Japan was explained to the Ministers by Mr. Liu Chung-chieh, Councillor of the Foreign Office. After a brief discussion, the draft document was revised and shortened in accordance with the wishes and desires of both President Tsu and Marshal Tuan Chui-jui, especially those of the latter, because his powerful leader of the Fengyang military party dominates the Government and his views carry more weight than those of the chief executive in Chinese politics nowadays.

On the termination of the Cabinet meeting, Premier Chin sent in his letter of resignation to the President, who, as a matter of formality, returned it to him through the Chief Secretary of the Cabinet. At the same time, at the special request of the President, Marshal Tuan returned to Peking from his private residence in Tzuohsi, and it is reported that both the President and the Marshal arrived at the conclusion that Chow Shu-mou, who is now President of the Administrative Court and was formerly Governor of Heilungkiang, be requested to organize a new Cabinet, in case General Chin actually wants to retire this time.

Marshal Tuan returned to Tzuohsi this morning saying that he will not interest himself in Cabinet affairs any further.

Tien Wen-lich, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, has declined to act as currently for Premier Chin so that the Cabinet crisis will be solved by Chow Shu-mou's acceptance of the offer, but it is reported that in view of the attitude of the majority party, that is the Anfu Club, in the new Parliament and his lack of any connection with this party, Chow has already declined it.

Wu Chen-shen, Chief Secretary of the Presidential Office, interviewed Premier Chin this morning at his private residence, persuading him to remain in his dual post, at least for the time being, in view of the dangerous situation of the country, otherwise the President shall be forced to resign office as well.

With regard to China's written reply to Japan, the revised document contains less than two hundred words. The proposed reply simply informs Japan that as China is not a party to the German peace treaty, it is not her business to negotiate with Japan on the basis of the said treaty, and that documents handed over by the German Government to Japan concerning Kiaochow are useless, because they were officially cancelled by China when she declared war on the Central Powers in 1917 with the consent of the Allies.

In view of the Cabinet crisis, it is doubtful whether China's reply can be sent to Mr. Obata within next week.

UGLY GIRL WANTED.

VAIN NEW YORK QUEST.

A novel advertisement which has been appearing lately in all the New York newspapers, offering a prize of \$20 to any girl whose features are adjudged ugly, has so far elicited but one response, the lone applicant subsequently admitting that she did not really consider herself plain, but answered the advertisement on being dared to do so in order to win a bet. The advertisement was inserted in good faith by the manager of a millinery association, who desires the services of a really plain girl at a forthcoming fashion exhibition. The manager admits that he is going to have a hard time in convincing buyers that the new millinery creations are worth the fabulous prices the creators mean to ask for them. He wants an ugly head in order to persuade American women that the millinery designing art has reached such a stage of perfection that anyone can be made to appear beautiful through the addition of a perfectly appropriate hat, gown, and other accessories, and that expense is a secondary consideration.

In the manager's opinion there are many very plain and even ugly girls in New York, but he is now on the point of admitting that even \$20 will not make a single one own it. Five times as many girls as were required answered his advertisement for attractive models. The only unpleasant incident to date connected with the advertisement has been due to a silly mistake made by newspaper photographers, who mistook three young lady reporters for applicants and asked permission to flash them, a request which was refused with some show of hauteur.

U.S. VIEWS ON HOME RULE BILL.

The *Times* New York correspondent says, Sane American opinion on the Irish situation seems to agree that the enactment of the present Bill, with amendments, promises the only escape from an infinitely dangerous deadlock. When once the Bill is passed, Sinn Fein, it is observed, may either reject the Parliament or establish a new one, but at least the British Government will have redeemed its promise of self-government, so many times frustrated or deferred. The *New York Evening Post* takes comfort in the thought that it is often darkest before dawn, and remarks:—

The abandonment of the Home Rule Bill through fear that it will not work would be only a surrender to the fatalistic philosophy from which Ireland has suffered these many years of stalemate in acquiescence in a state of affairs.

The only hope of escape is by a break through. The Bill carries the only promise in sight of such a solution of the deadlock.

NOVEL CURE FOR SHELL-SHOCK.

SCENES OF FEAR ACTED-OUT AGAIN.

A remarkable theory on the cure of shell shock by hypnotism is given in the *British Medical Journal* by Dr. William Brown, late medical officer in charge of Craiglockhart War Hospital for Neurotic Officers, and reader in psychology at London University. Shell shocked patients, he maintains, can be cured by working off the emotion repressed at the time when the shock occurred.

"Take," says Dr. Brown, "the condition of almost any bad case of shell-shock on any of the fronts during the past five years. All such cases show loss of memory of greater or less extent. They may have forgotten every thing that has happened since the shell burst, and they will exhibit other losses of function. They may show loss of voice, of powers of walking, of hearing, or of the power of voluntary control."

"It will be found that such a patient is very easily hypnotised; if it be suggested to him that he will remember the circumstances of his injury he will act again the whole circumstances, and in that process his various functions will return."

"If he has been dumb, he will now speak, without the necessity of suggesting it. If he has been paralysed, movement will occur in his limbs. What has been done? We have brought up the lost memories, and with the memories the lost functions. But we have done more than that, we have given him an outlet for an emotion which was originally experienced by him with so great an intensity that he could not do full justice to it, and his mind split in the attempt."

"While under shell fire," adds Dr. Brown, "the conscious personality was trying to suppress the emotion of fear, partly from a sense of duty—duty of a soldier—partly in self defence—anything to get away from it."

"In curing the patient we bring up the repressed experience once more. We encourage him to work off the emotion involved in it."

Dr. Brown quotes the case of his cure of a gunner, who had been suffering for two years from a tremor of the arm, dating from the time he had been blown up at Ypres. He sent him to sleep, and up at Ypres he should live again through his experience at Ypres. "He did so," explained Dr. Brown, "and began to shout out all sorts of things, which showed what had happened at the time."

"He was apparently serving the gun, and someone else was handing him ammunition. Then I noticed that he was moving the handle with his right hand, his hand began to shake violently, and soon he was shaking all over. Then he suddenly became absolutely still. I suggested that he should continue to remember all that he had just gone through, and then woke him up. He looked at the hand, which was absolutely still, with amazement."

"His gun had been blown up, and the emotion which this experience had excited in him had been bottled up for two years, with the result that he had suffered from this tremor in his hand. The next morning he was able to shave himself with an ordinary razor, for the first time since his illness."

BACK TO THE AGE OF THREE

Another interesting cure described by Dr. Brown was that of a Flying Corps signaller who was blown up by a bomb, and as a result found an appalling consciousness that everything appeared twisted at right angles to its ordinary position.

The first attempt at hypnotism only effected a partial cure. The doctor was then informed that his patient, when a child of six had shown similar symptoms after a fall. Dr. Brown concluded that some accident must have occurred in the first six years of his life to cause the symptoms.

After the fourth hypnotic sleep he remembered that at about the age of three he had upset some hot coffee down his right arm and had felt a pain in his left side. He remembered that when he woke that time he felt the bed to be the wrong way round.

"That was the first experience of disorientation he could remember. It occurred to me that the scalding of his arm had produced a fainting fit, in which he fell to the left and everything twisted round to the right. The man was completely cured and very soon applied for his discharge."

END OF THE WORLD.

DATE FIXED—10,000,000,000 YEARS HENCE.

The scientific writer, Mr. Charles Nordmann, having his opinion on the latest researches says in an article in the *Monitor* that the end of the world will not come for ten thousand million years.

Helmholtz and Henri Poincaré estimated that the sun would have burned itself out within eight million years, but the recent discovery that the solar mass contains immense deposits of radium means that the duration of the sun's heat is multiplied almost indefinitely.

The rays of the sun, which is the source of all terrestrial life, should therefore last another ten thousand million years at least, unless a catastrophe is occasioned by the solar body coming into contact with another planet.

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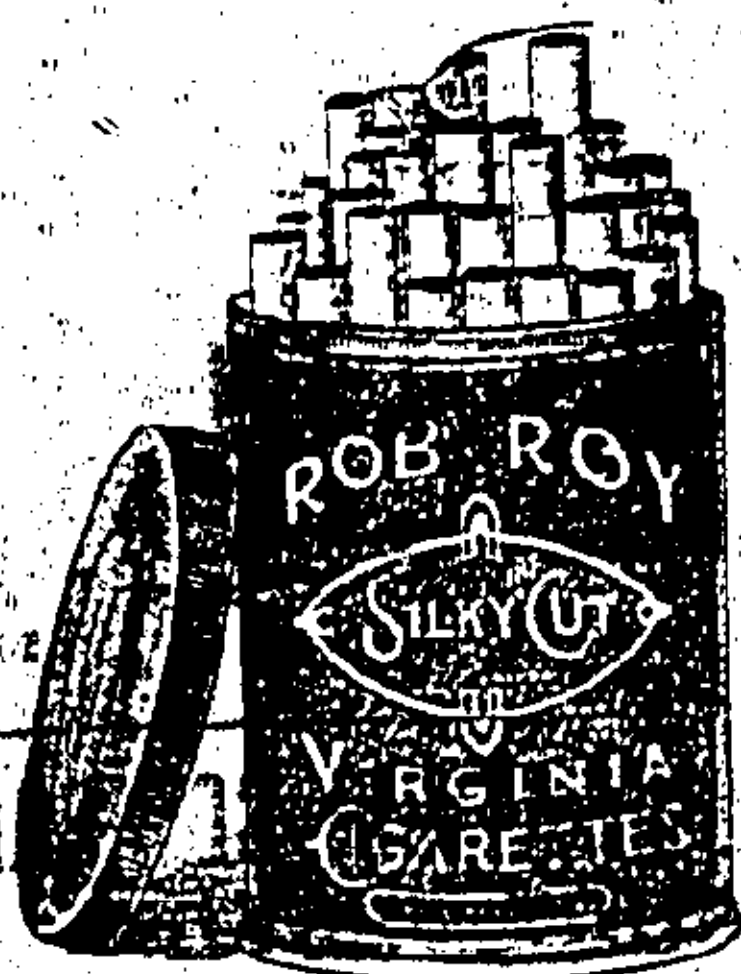
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THE TOBACCO TRADE OF HONGKONG.

ILLUMINATING STATISTICS.

In the course of a recent report, the United States Consul-General Geo. E. Anderson says the full scope and volume of the tobacco industry and trade of Hongkong is not generally understood; in fact, it has not been fully appreciated in Hongkong itself until recently. The publication of the trade statistics of the Colony for the first six months of 1919 gives definite figures for the value of the trade for the first time, and is illuminating. The statistics point to a total value of the exports of prepared and other tobacco from the Colony for 1919 of almost, if not quite, \$19,000,000 gold. The imports will reach a value of nearly, if not quite, \$4,000,000 gold, exclusive of those from South China, which amount to about \$3,000,000 more; and the difference between imports and exports in a general way measures the value of the tobacco-working industry of Hongkong.

There are three lines of tobacco manufacture in the Colony. One is a large cigarette factory, started several years ago by Chinese capitalists from Canton, and is known as the Canton Nanyang Brothers Tobacco Co. (Ltd.). The second factor is a large cigar factory which was started several years before the war, as a branch of a Manila (P.I.) factory, and is known as the Oriente Cigar Factory. Like the Manila concern, it was owned more or less completely by German interests; with the inception of the war it was taken over by the Hongkong Government for liquidation. It has been operated as a going concern by the liquidators ever since, and is responsible for most of the difference between the imports and exports of cigars. Very little of the product of this factory is used locally. The third principal factor in the industry of the native tobacco is the industry of the raw leaf, imported and manufactured into native Chinese pipes, especially the small nickel and brass water pipes.

It is of interest to note that experiments have been carried on for some time by the botanical and forestry department of the Colonial Government in Hongkong with a view to producing in the Colony itself tobacco leaf suitable for the manufacture of cigars. A considerable degree of success is to be noted, and experimental lots of cigars have been made. There is a considerable amount of terrain in the mainland portion of the Colony considered suitable for the production of a high-grade leaf, and it is thought that under proper superintendence and instruction a large production of such tobacco can be developed.

THE COTTON INDUSTRY OF JAPAN.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS.

According to a recent report by H.M. Commercial Secretary at Yokohama, published in the *Board of Trade Journal*, dealing with the cotton industry developments in Japan, spinning companies to the number of seventeen have been newly floated or are shortly to be established in the Osaka district. The aggregate capital of these concerns will exceed 35,000,000 yen and the number of spindles at their disposal will be over 180,000—the figures in two cases being at present unknown. The increase in the capital of spinning and other companies, of frequent occurrence of late, is invariably a capitalisation of profits, i.e., capital is increased out of profits, instead of increasing the dividend rate. The average dividend of twenty-six cotton spinning companies during the three years 1911-13 was 10.5 per cent. In the following four years, 1914-17, the average dividend of thirty-two such companies was 30.32 per cent., while the average dividend of thirty-three companies in the first half of 1918 was 50.27 per cent. Japanese spinners are looking forward to producing the finer counts of yarns, and there are indications that they are favouring American cotton at the expense of other growths. The average annual imports of cotton rose 67,109,506 yen, or 35 per cent. in value above the mean established in the years 1911-13, to an average of 280,838,340 yen for the years 1914-17.

COTTON EXPORTS.

Japan exports only whipped cotton in the raw state. The shipments of this during 1911-13 averaged 7,952 piculs per annum, valued at 25,181 yen; the ensuing four years, 1914-17, saw the average annual exports enlarged to 12,338 piculs, valued at 41,861 yen. There was still a decided tendency towards further increase in 1917, the last year of the latter period, shipments then amounting to 13,639 piculs, valued at 515,827 yen. The principal destinations of cotton exported from Japan were China, Kwangtung, Asiatic Russia, and Hawaii.

The average annual production of raw cotton in Japan is only about 17,000 piculs, or .04 of the average consumption of 6,838,000 piculs per annum for the six years 1912-17. Compared with the average of the quotations ruling in 1913 for the principal markets spot prices in 1917 showed a rise of rather over 100 per cent. Values continued to advance in 1918, and the average price of spot cotton for the period January-August for that year was 150 per cent. above the 1913 level.

FOREIGN ARMIES.

Sir A. Williamson (Financial Secretary to the War Office) replying to Major E. Davies (Col. L. Montgomery), on March 18th, stated that the service which foreign Powers propose to maintain are as follows: Austria, 20,000; Germany, 200,000 (100,000 by July 19th, 1920); Belgium, 100,000; Bulgaria, 44,000; Czechoslovakia, 15,000; France, 450,000; Greece, 200,000; Hungary, 25,000; Italy, 250,000; Netherlands, 137,600; Norway, 138,500; Romania, 230,000; Portugal, 38,000; Spain, 100,000; Sweden, 225,000; Switzerland, 140,000; United States of America, 242,000; and Yugoslavia, 170,000.

INTIMATIONS

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10 cases Cod Fish Flakes.
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In first class condition, will be sold in small lots.
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30 dozen Rob Soap.
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Vessel	Leave Hongkong	Discharge
"CARMARTHENSHIRE"	22nd May	22nd May
"CARDIGANSHIRE"	29th May	29th May
"GLENSANDA"	5th June	5th June
"GLENTAPLE"	12th June	12th June
"GLENTARA"	19th June	19th June

HOMEWARDS.

Vessel	Leave Hongkong	Discharge
"GLENTAPLE"	20th May	20th May
"PROFESSOR"	29th May	29th May

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SHIPPING NEWS

ARRIVALS.

May 16th.
Kam Yung Fat, Chinese str., 445 tons, Capt. Noronha, from Pakhoi, with a general cargo.—Globe N. Co.
Wankeeun, American str., 4,123 tons, Capt. Downing, from New York, with a general cargo.—Barber Line.
 May 17th.
Haidia, Norwegian str., 1,035 tons, Capt. Bull, from Canton, in ballast.—Thorsen.
Hera, Norwegian str., 823 tons, Capt. Olsen, from Dairen, with a general cargo.—Thorsen & Co.
Rock Lee, Portuguese str., 332 tons, Capt. Lenos, from Wakamatsu, with a cargo of coal.—Man Wing.
Tai Sang, British str., 2,224 tons, Capt. Money, from Singapore, with a general cargo.—J. M. & Co.
Tung Shing, British str., 1,173 tons, Capt. Purkins, from Saigon, with a cargo of rice.—J. M. & Co.
Shanhuay, British str., 1,560 tons, Capt. Monkman, from Canton, with a general cargo.—B. & S.
Sunning, British str., 1,750 tons, Capt. Benson, from Shanghai and Amoy, with a general cargo.—B. & S.
Yuen Sang, British str., 1,138 tons, Capt. McAlister, from Manila, with a general cargo.—J. M. & Co.
Delta, British str., 8,089 tons, Capt. Hetherington, from London, which port she left on April 10th, with a general cargo.—P. & O.

CLEARANCES.

May 16th.
Cuddalore, for Calcutta.
Chun On, for Kwong Chow Wan.
Dunera, for Bombay.
E Sang, for Canton.
Faheliff, for Calcutta.
Hong Kong, for Shanghai.
Hun Chow, for Chefoo.
Huppi, for Singapore.
Huateral, for Taingtau.
Kaifong, for Haiphong.
Kaipo Maru, for Keelung.
Kanji Maru, for Keelung.
Mo Lun, for Haiphong.
Professor, for Shanghai.
Siam Maru, for Bombay.
Siniferopol, for Shanghai.
Sosai Maru, for Canton.
Taga Maru, for Keelung.
Tenji, for Shanghai.
Tonshina Maru, for Quinhon.
Wu Sun, for Kwong Chow Wan.
 May 16th.
Glenallich, for Amoy.
Kaku Maru, for Yokohama.
Sai Rick, for Shanghai.
Takuma Maru, for Calcutta.
 May 17th.
Cuddalore, for Sourabaya.
Cheking, for Tamsui.
Chun Sang, for Shanghai.
Delta, for Shanghai.
Haidia, for Keelung.
Huateral, for Hongkong.
Nagata Maru No. 28, for Tamsui.
Kung Ping, for Canton.
Kung Ping, for Shanghai.
Kung Ping, for Canton.
Lachow, for Bangkok.
Nellere, for Yokohama.
Sunning, for Canton.
War Sepoy, for Wei-hai-wel.
Yang Tse Kiang, for Haiphong.

SHIPPING MOVEMENTS.

The *s.s. Siberia Maru* arrived at Yokohama on the 14th inst. on the outward voyage from San Francisco.
 The *R.M.S. Empress of Russia* left Yokohama on May 15th and is due at Vancouver on May 24th.
 Telegraphic advice has been received from Shanghai that the *s.s. China* sailed from that port on Sunday morning and may be expected to arrive in Hongkong this afternoon.
 The *R.M.S. Empress of Asia* arrived at Yokohama on May 17th, left the same day, is due at Kobe to-day, and will arrive here on May 21st.

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PASSENGERS.

ARRIVALS.

Per *s.s. Nellere*, on May 16th:—Mrs. Old, Mr. A. K. McDougall, Mrs. Tinson, Capt. and Mrs. Simpson, Mr. and Mrs. Church, Mr. and Mrs. Goodman, Mrs. O'Sullivan, Mrs. C. M. Dorrington, Mrs. E. Gordon, Mr. J. E. R. Knowles, Miss V. Borilla, Mr. A. M. C. Stewart, Mrs. and Miss Chuk, Mr. and Mrs. Biresteyn, Mr. and Mrs. Bergama, Mr. J. J. Kino, Mr. G. Wendenberg, Mr. A. C. Stuart, and Bro. Eustinius.
 Per *s.s. Delta*, on May 17th:—Lieut. and Mrs. S. P. Leigh, Mr. A. C. Abbott, Mr. and Mrs. Lewellin, Mrs. D. L. Lyle, Mr. E. Moore, Mrs. Bell Irving, Miss B. Warner, Mr. and Mrs. Thornton, Miss M. Scott, Mr. L. F. Tounend, Mr. and Mrs. Church, Mrs. Brewer, Mr. and Mrs. Winfield, Mr. H. A. Nitt, Mr. N. Drummond, Mr. and Mrs. F. Knight, Col. W. Nicholson, Mrs. Orr, Mr. R. Robertson, Mr. and Mrs. Dawson, Mr. and Mrs. Booker, Mr. and Mrs. Coster, Mr. and Mrs. Heringa, Mr. and Mrs. H. Stiven, and Mr. and Mrs. F. Stone.

THE MESSENGERIES MARITIMES.

The Messageries Maritimes is raising its capital from 45 millions to 75 millions of francs by the issue of 120,000 ordinary shares of 250 fr. each. These new shares were offered at 400 fr. per share payable fr. on application and 200 fr. on May 25th. The list for subscriptions was open between April 6th and 27th.

FIRES ON GERMAN SHIPS.

"I know of three German ships now run by the P. & O. Company which had fires on board, and one was practically burnt out." This statement was made by Mr. Frederick Radd, Sumner's dock superintendent of the P. & O. Company, at an inquiry held at the Middlesex Guildhall into the mysterious fire which severely damaged the *Prince Rupert*, an ex-German ship, in the Royal Albert Dock last November. He also stated that the P. & O. Company now managed ten or more former German vessels.

P. & O. RECORD RUN.

The P. & O. *Valdera*, which arrived in Bombay on April 30th left Tientsin on the afternoon of April 10th and made the run from Marseilles to Bombay in 13 days. The *Valdera* carried about 600 passengers, only quarter of them for India, the others being on their way to Australia.

PASSAGE QUESTION IN INDIA.

A communication from Simla on the home passage question says: The Government learn from the shipping companies that the position has been improved by the addition to the P. & O. Company's programme of the *Narkunda* sailing on May 29th and the *Mantua* on June 6th. These steamers between them will take 1,100 passengers. The information obtained indicates that in the eight weeks from April 16th to June 6th the companies should be able to provide accommodation for 5,000 passengers exclusive of the entitled military. A small proportion are sailing from Karachi, but the majority from Bombay. The Government cannot ascertain accurately how many passengers are waiting, but believe that the majority requiring passages before the monsoon will be provided for. The two steamers *Narkunda* and *Kanagar* have been secured for a voyage direct from Calcutta.

CP & OS

SAILINGS.

HONGKONG-VANCOUVER

(via Shanghai, Nagasaki ("Mojji") Kobe & Yokohama)

STRAMERS	From Hongkong	To Vancouver
Empress of Japan	May 26	June 16
Empress of Asia	June 3	June 21
Monteagle	June 8	July 2
Empress of Russia	July 1	July 19
Empress of Japan	July 20	Aug. 10
Empress of Asia	July 28	Aug. 16
Monteagle	Aug. 12	Sept. 5
Empress of Russia	Aug. 26	Sept. 13
Empress of Japan	Sept. 14	Oct. 5
Empress of Asia	Sept. 23	Oct. 11
Empress of Russia	Oct. 21	Nov. 8
Monteagle	Oct. 26	Nov. 19
Empress of Japan	Nov. 9	Nov. 30
Empress of Asia	Nov. 18	Dec. 6
Empress of Russia	Dec. 16	Jan. 3

Passages Fares Hongkong to United Kingdom.

STRAMERS	From Hongkong	To Vancouver
Empress of Russia	16,800 Tons Reg.	Gold 6,000 Tons Reg.
Empress of Asia	16,800 Tons Reg.	Gold 6,000 Tons Reg.
Empress of Russia	16,800 Tons Reg.	Gold 6,000 Tons Reg.

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TAJIMA MARU (calling Manila)	Wednesday, 30th June, 11 a.m.
KATORI MARU (calling Manila)	Friday, 2nd July, at 11 a.m.

LONDON & ANTWERP via Singapore, Penang, Colombo, Suez

Port Said and Marseilles.

MISHIMA MARU	Saturday, 22nd May, at Noon.
SADO MARU	Friday, 28th May, at Noon.
KITANO MARU	Friday, 11th June, at Noon.

HAMBURG, LONDON & ANTWERP via Singapore, Colombo

Suez and Port Said.

TOYOOKA MARU	Friday, 11th June.
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LIVERPOOL & MARSEILLES via Singapore, Colombo, Suez and

Port Said.

KAMAKURA MARU	Friday, 28th May.
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MELBOURNE & SYDNEY via Manila, Zamboanga, Thursday

Island, Townsville & Brisbane.

AKI MARU	Wednesday, 28th May, at 11 a.m.
TANGO MARU	Wednesday, 23rd June, at 11 a.m.

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BOMBAY & COLOMBO via Singapore.

KANAGAWA MARU	Wednesday, 28th May.
BOMBAY MARU	Wednesday, 2nd June.

CALCUTTA & RANGOON via Singapore & Penang.

SANUKI MARU	Tuesday, 25th May.
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JAPAN PORTS—Nagasaki, Kobe & Yokohama.

TANGO MARU	Sunday, 23rd May, at 11 a.m.
NIKKO MARU	Friday, 25th June, at 11 a.m.

SHANGHAI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA.

INABA MARU	Thursday, 20th May, at 11 a.m.
TSUSHIMA MARU	Sunday, 23rd May.
KAMO MARU	Thursday, 3rd June, at 11 a.m.
AWA MARU	Thursday, 3rd June.

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CIVIL SERVANTS' SALARIES.
POLICE SERGEANTS
DISSATISFIED.PETITION SENT TO H.E. THE
GOVERNOR.

The following is a copy of the petition sent to the Captain-Superintendent of Police by the Police Sergeants to be transmitted to the Governor for his consideration:

THE CAPTAIN-SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE.
SIR,—We, the junior members of the Police, request that you forward to His Excellency the Governor the following proposals for his immediate consideration:

1.—The proposed increase of the minimum rate of pay to £160 per annum is obviously insufficient.

The London Metropolitan Police commence with a salary of £167 10s. per annum with annual increments. The F.M.S. Police commence with £200 per annum plus £100 allowance per annum. Since we are performing duties equivalent to those of an Inspector of the London Police, and performing those duties 11,000 miles from home, we are obviously entitled to a considerably higher salary than a London P.C.

The higher ranks of the force have received an increase of from 100 per cent. to 120 per cent. on a much higher salary, while we receive 60 per cent. with only two annual increments. That is to say, that after two years a Lance-Sergeant will have attained the maximum salary he can hope to draw for ten or twelve years.

We propose, therefore, that the minimum pay of Lance-Sergeants be fixed at not less than £225 per annum, thus making the minimum pay of a Police Officer equivalent to that of a Sanitary Officer; this, moreover, is only slightly more than a 10 per cent. Colonial allowance on the minimum pay of the London Police.

(b.)—By the G.O. dealing with the question of pay, "Ice and chow allowance" to New Territory Stations is withdrawn. This is manifestly unfair, as it is obvious that the living expenses for one or two men in an outstation must be in excess of those at the Central Station. Moreover, the previous allowance of \$30, which has been in force for many years, is now, in view of the increased cost of living, inadequate; we therefore submit that this allowance be increased to \$30 per month.

2.—In view of the fact that promotion under the present system is practically at a standstill, we advocate compulsory retirement at the age of 45 years or on completing 20 years' service, thus giving the junior members of the Force an incentive to take an active interest in their duties. We would also suggest that past Government service in any capacity be taken into consideration in determining the amount of a man's pension.

3.—We wish to point out that the Police in comparison with all other Government departments, civil employments, and other Police Forces, labour under considerable disadvantage with regard to leave. We receive a total of 12 days per annum, whilst all other Government Departments receive at least 100 days per annum. The Home Forces receive 70 days per annum, consisting of one day per week and an annual leave of from 15 to 21 days. After having served 5 years in the Hongkong Police a man has enjoyed 60 days relief from duty; during the same period the Home Police have received at least 350 days.

We respectfully contend that we should be allowed at least 45 hours' leave per month and 9 months' leave on full pay, exclusive of the time spent in passage, after the completion of each period of 5 years' service. This leave should not be conditional upon re-engagement for a subsequent 5 years, as it brings our total leave from tropical service to ten days less than that of the Home Police during a similar period.

We also contend that we are entitled, while on leave, to an allowance in lieu of quarters.

Another injustice under this heading is the system under which a man automatically forfeits his right to monthly leave by becoming a defaulter, since all breaches of discipline are presumably adequately punished by the Captain-Superintendent.

4.—We would suggest that His Excellency pay a visit to the European Police quarters and compare them with any other Government quarters; we feel sure he will agree that they lose by comparison with most Government coolie quarters.

We would also call the attention of His Excellency to the fact that the material from which the European Police uniform is made is identical with that issued to coolies in Victoria Gaol, while Asiatic Government servants wear a white drill uniform. In this connection we would point out that the Chinese P.C.s are issued with a uniform identical with that of the European Lance-Sergeants.

Whilst submitting the foregoing for His Excellency's consideration, we would press for immediate relief on the question of pay, maintaining that we are entitled to insist on the minimum stated.

Within the last ten years the minimum pay of the Home Forces has been increased by more than 250 per cent. while on the first substantive increase for a similar period the minimum pay of the Hongkong Police is increased by a meagre 60 per cent.

REVISION OF SALARIES.
COLONIAL SECRETARY'S
INCREASE.

According to the recently approved rates, the Colonial Secretary's salary will be £2,000 a year instead of £1,800.

THE BOTANICAL DEPARTMENT.

The rates approved for the Botanical and Forestry Department are as follows:—

Superintendent.—£800 to £900 by £20 annually.

Assistant Superintendent.—£400 to £500 by £10 annually.

The previous rates were as follows:—

Superintendent.—£420 to £540 by £40 annually and an allowance of \$380 per annum.

Assistant Superintendent.—£270 to £380 by £20 annually and allowances amounting to \$1,128 per annum.

WAR DEPARTMENT LABOUR.
INCREASED PAY FOR NATIVE
WORKMEN.

The following is an extract from Routine Orders:—

"War Office Authority has been received to increase the pay of all native workmen in War Department employ, excluding Clerical Staff, from April 10th, 1929, on the following scale:—

"An increase of 32½ per cent. to all employees, including apprentices, except No. 1 Men. Those drawing \$100 or less on January 1st, 1929, shall participate to the full 32½ per cent. No. 1 men drawing more than \$100 a month, on January 1st, 1929, to receive an advance of 20 per cent."

CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND
AT HAPPY VALLEY.
PLEA FOR A SHELTER.

A correspondent writes:—Now that the summer is approaching and the Hongkong Football Club match is being razed to the ground as it is no longer required for football purposes, I would suggest that the Government erect a temporary match on the football ground at Happy Valley for the use of the little ones who frequent the place of an evening. It is a well-known fact that the European and other children residing in the immediate vicinity of the valley and even those from other neighbourhoods are sent to the valley every evening accompanied by their nurses and amahs to obtain a little fresh air, as it is the only place they could go to in this congested Colony. The little ones were all right a month ago, for whenever there was a shower of rain they could take refuge under the Club match. Now they have no place to take shelter in and the rainy season has commenced. In Kowloon such a shelter has been provided for the children and is kept in admirable order and I hope the Government will realize the necessity for such a shelter on this side of the harbour and erect it immediately for the sake of the many little ones who play there every evening.

HONGKONG TRADE RETURNS.
ENORMOUS GROWTH IN VALUES.

We have received from the Government Printers a copy of the Trade and Shipping Returns of Hongkong for the first quarter of 1929. The trade returns show remarkable increases compared with those for the first quarter of last year. Thus imports (excluding treasure) are valued at £23,932,132, as compared with £15,283,880 in the first quarter of last year. Exports (excluding treasure) were valued at £24,973,000, as compared with £17,251,679 for the corresponding period of last year. All values are required to be furnished in local currency. These values, in the first quarter of this year were converted at the following exchange rates: January, 5s. 6d.; February, 5s. 5½d.; and March 5s. 6d.

Treasure movements during the quarter were: Imports, £15,178,591; exports, £13,642,592.

Shipping tonnage returns for the quarter show: Arrivals, 2,570,064 tons; departures, 2,567,862 tons; which compares with 2,116,460 and 2,066,897 respectively in the corresponding quarter of last year. British tonnage is represented by about one half the total.

SIBERIAN REFUGEES' FUND.

Mrs. Lafrantz acknowledges with thanks parcels of clothing from Mrs. Moxon, Mrs. G. Lamont, Mrs. Moorhead, Mrs. Mackenzie (socks), Mrs. Dowbiggin, Mr. H. W. Bird, four anonymous parcels, and \$21 from the sale of pictures and sundry small contributions making a total of £23 to be expended on calico and sent with the next consignment.

Mrs. Lafrantz thanks contributors for so kindly sending late with their parcels and the cupboard being now empty of clothing, hats, shoes, etc. These cases were shipped recently.

SPORT.
TENNIS.

HONGKONG C.C. TOURNAMENT.

The Lo brothers played disappointing tennis yesterday. They should have beaten Stalker and Abraham in three straight sets, and they should not have given their opponents as many games as they did. One fancies the Lo brothers, knowing they had the upper hand of the Kowloon pair, lengthened the game intentionally, so as to give themselves a good practice for their coming championship match. They certainly tried many weird strokes, driving with unnecessary vigour even when they had an uphill fight to make. They will have to play better if they are going to beat Ng Sz Kwong and A. H. Rumiann. This game, which takes place, weather permitting, on Thursday, is certain to be worth watching. Each pair has unlimited confidence in its own capabilities.

Stalker and Abraham played defensive tennis, standing right back on the base line and driving accurately. Stalker's knacker shot had a great deal of force behind them and the Los came very near to losing the first set. Stalker and his partner got the first three games, and were leading 5-2 at one stage. Then the Lo brothers came away and playing with their accustomed dash won four games in succession, and were leading for the first time. The Kowloon pair obtained another game, but the Los were giving nothing away, and took the next two games and the set, 6-6.

The Los were more steady in the second set, but it was owing to their reckless driving that the Kowloon couple went as far as they did. The Los were leading 4-2 at one time when they gave two games away. It was only after a strenuous effort that they captured the set after 12 games had been played, 7-5. The Los gave the third set away by the inaccuracy of their drives. The Kowloon pair were steady, and, although their shots were absolutely devoid of style, they managed to gain point after point owing to unnecessary recklessness by M. W. Lo. The Kowloon pair had some luck in this set, especially Stalker, who brought off some unusual strokes at the net.

In the fourth set, the Lo brothers, after giving Stalker and Abraham two games, showed their real form. They won five games in succession and looked like finishing the match when a lucky shot by Stalker gave him and his partner a game. This was, however, the beginning of the end, for Lo took the next game, the set, 6-3, and the match 8-4, 7-5, 3-6, 6-3.

TO-DAY'S MATCH.

To-day, M. W. Lo meets R. Townsend in the final of the championship singles. Tickets, priced at \$1, are available at Moutrie's.

EXHIBITION OF JAPANESE
PICTURES.

The members of the Hongkong Sketch Club and other local residents will be interested to learn that an exhibition of Japanese picture will be opened at the St. Andrew's Hall, City Hall, to-morrow at which the works of several prominent Japanese artists will be on exhibition. Perhaps the most noted works are those of Mr. M. T. Takeuchi, B.A., an artist who, born in Tokyo, has spent the greater part of his life in Europe. He has studied under several English masters, latterly under Professor J. Swan. Three of his pictures hung in the Royal Academy were "Wimbledon," "Night," and "Amberley by Moonlight." Included in his exhibits in Hongkong are "Putney Bridge" and "Bruges, Belgium," but his best work at the show will doubtless be "A Morning in Summer."

Mr. T. Shirataki, another famous Japanese painter, is exhibiting 12 pictures in oils, of which his best is "Cherry Blossoms, Kyoto." Mr. Shirataki, who graduated in the Art Academy, Tokyo, in 1898, studied later in America under R. Vanoh of New York, and in London, under the late celebrated R. Collin.

Mr. T. Atomi, one of Japan's leading oil painters, is showing 18 paintings, of which his best is "Ita in Winter." Mr. Ishikawa Kim is a noted worker in water colours, in which he is exhibiting 20 pictures. His best is undoubtedly "Nellage Street." Mr. K. Onishi is showing 24 water colour studies, of which his "Autumn" has been considered one of his best. Another well-known water colour artist is Mr. S. Shibata, whose best work is "Grapes." He is showing eight studies. Mr. K. Soma is exhibiting 5 exhibits in oils. Visitors may purchase, if they so desire, any picture they like, the prices ranging from \$10 to \$300.

CORRESPONDENCE.
THE EMPIRE MEMORIAL
HOSTEL.[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG
DAILY PRESS."]

SIR,—We want to endow this Hostel, the need for which is very urgent and very pressing and the site for which is already acquired. It is a terrible reflection for us, who owe our very lives to the sacrifices of our Merchant Seamen, that, when they come into the Port of London, hundreds of them are unable to find a decent bed, a decent meal, and decent recreation, which is all they ask for. All the existing Hostels are crowded out and are turning hundreds of men away every night, and the result is they are driven to the haunts of vice which abound in the district—where they exist, indeed, to prey on these men—or else they can only walk the streets. And, these are the men who saved the Empire.

We cannot all give large sums, but most people can afford 2/6, and we want to get a million half-crowns in order that the Memorial Hostel may be opened as soon as possible. There can be no delay in paying the debt that every person in this Empire owes to these men.—Yours truly,
(Signed) SOMERSET.

34, Grosvenor Square,
London, W.1.

Subscriptions should be sent to:—His Grace The Duke of Somerset, Wakefield House, 33, Chapside, London, E.C.5.

MAGISTRACY ITEMS.

OPIUM.

Two Chinese were fined \$750 each for being in unlawful possession of 40 tael of opium.

MONEY CONFISCATED.

Four Chinese had over \$60 subsidiary coins confiscated as they attempted to export them without a permit.

BURGLAR IMPRISONED.

A burglar was sentenced to three months' imprisonment for breaking into a house in Wan-chai. He was accompanied by two other men who escaped and whose identity he refused to reveal.

A TIGRESS.

When a Chinese woman was charged with obstruction she accused the Police of having a grudge against her. The Magistrate was informed that the woman always behaved "like a tigress" and gave the Police considerable trouble. She was fined \$2.

A "BLIND" BEGGAR.

A Chinese, pretending to be blind, was charged with begging alms. The man had been arrested with others some time ago and taken to the Station. On the way a cripple stole an orange and defendant, who was supposed to be blind, drew the attention of the Sergeant to the theft. The defendant was sent to Canton, but returned the next day and continued to beg.

BAIL ESTREATED.

An unmarried woman named B. Lotus Carr, who had been arrested for disorderly conduct in Hollywood Road, and liberated on bail of \$25, failed to put in an appearance at the Magistrate's yesterday, when the case was due to be heard, and the bail was estreated. The bail of \$10 provided by W. Warton in connection with a charge of disorderly behaviour at the Central Police Station was also estreated upon the defendant's failure to appear when the case was called.

STEALING BOAT ANCHORS.

A Chinese was charged with stealing a small boat and three anchors. Inspector Cayll stated that defendant cut the anchors from different boats which were lying in Yau-mat Bay early on Sunday morning. A detective noticed the incident and arrested him.

The detective stated that he saw defendant getting into a boat near the wharf and, being suspicious, watched him behind a coal stack to watch the man's movements. He saw defendant cutting the anchors and then bringing them ashore. Witness tried to arrest the man who immediately put out to sea. Witness followed in another boat and the man jumped into the sea. He was lost sight of for a time and was then seen on another wharf stark naked. Witness arrested him and had to borrow a sheet to cover him up.

Inspector Cayll stated that defendant's act was a dangerous one, inasmuch as it being the monsoon season, loss of life might have resulted owing to the boats drifting and being hurled against the breakwater.

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